62 He

Honey Plants

for

1961

by

LIBRARY
RECEIVED
★ JAN 12 1961
U. S. Department of Agriculture

PELLETT GARDENS

ATLANTIC, IOWA

Featuring

UNUSUAL PLANTS

VITEX—outstanding honey plant shrub—see page 2.

UNUSUAL PERENNIALS for bee gardens—see page 6.

The Only Catalog of its Kind

Trees and Shrubs

VITEX

(Vitex negundo incisa)

Best nectar yielding shrub we know.

Flowers first year—Long lived perennial.

Blooms "Mid-summer 'til frost."

Shrub Border, Hedge or Screen.

This unusual shrub or small tree is a pretty one with deeply cut leaves and many flowers. It begins blooming at an early age, often the first year from seed, with lavender-blue flowers on terminal spikes. Among the very best of honey plants it furnishes abundant bloom which the bees work freely beginning in mid-summer and often lasting until after frost here; we have also reports from states south of here relating bees working Vitex from sun-up 'til sun-down until in October or 1st of November.

Vitex negundo incisa grows over a wide range of soils and climate. Once established it is reasonably drowth resistant and long lived. It appears best suited to climate southward of central Missouri and southern New England. It is root hardy some north of that range. In the north the stems often winterkill but the roots send up new shoots which flower the same year. In the south, the plants grow to fifteen feet in height. Can be planted singly; or closely for high hedge or wind-break.

A report from South Missouri: " . . . two to three months of solid bloom . . ." From Oklahoma: "My trees are blooming freely and bees are working them furiously." (Sept. 29.)

Seed: per packet 35c; ounce $1.00; ¼ lb. $3.00; postpaid.

We offer strong one year plants which in our experience transplant better than older plants of Vitex.

Plants, 4 for $2.50; 12 for $5.00; 25 for $9.00; postpaid. Write for quantity price.

BEE BEE TREE

(Evodia daniellii)

This fast growing small to medium size tree shows much promise as a nectar producer. Native to North China and Korea, it has not until recently been planted much in this country. In the East it is reported winter hardy as far north as Pennsylvania and Boston, Massachusetts. Blooming for over three weeks (July-August) with small whitish flowers in clusters ten inches across, it attracts bees in large numbers constantly humming over the flowers. Fast growing, a tree in the East is reported at eighteen feet within four years from the time it was set out as a seedling.

A small well shaped shade tree with attractive dark green foliage; it is hoped that BEE BEE TREE will prove a valuable addition to your tree plantings and bee pasture.

2 to 3 ft. plants, each $2.95; 2 for $5.00; postpaid.

PEA TREE

(Caragana arborescens)

A shrub or small tree having light green foliage and clusters of bright yellow pea-shaped flowers. It is very hardy and is drowth resistant. It is good for individual planting or plant 3 to 4 feet apart for hedge. It is a free bloomer and the pea like blossoms yield an abundant supply of well flavored honey in the spring. Bees fairly swarm over the flowers.

18 to 24 inch seedlings, 8 for $2.00; 25 for $5.00; postpaid.

RUSSIAN OLIVE

(Elaeagnus angustifolia)

The abundance of white, silvery gray foliage makes this a most striking shrub or small tree. It is desirable for grouping and extensively used in windbreaks. It blooms in late spring or early summer and is one of the best of honey plants. Bees visit the flowers in large numbers from early morning until late evening. The grayish white berries are much sought by birds. Very hardy and drowth resistant.

Plants, 2 ft. seedlings, 5 for $2.00; 15 for $5.00; postpaid.

NORTHERN CLIMATE SPECIAL

3 VERY HARDY PLANTS for Northern U. S.

2 plants TATARIAN HONEYSUCKLE

5 plants RUSSIAN OLIVE

8 plants PEA TREE

ALL FOR ONLY $5.00; Postpaid

CLAVEY'S DWARF HONEYSUCKLE

Nectar producing hedge.

We observe bees in abundance on the numerous yellow flowers appearing in May. An outstanding plant for the bee-keeper's lawn hedge — it grows to not over three or four feet tall.

Very compact and shapely it fits into the shrub border, as accent in the perennial border or as mass planting on banks. Red honeysuckle berries attract birds in autumn.

18 to 24 inch select plants, each $1.35; 3 for $3.50; 10 for $9.50; postpaid.

TATARIAN HONEYSUCKLE

(Lonicera tatarica)

A shrub with masses of attractive flowers in early spring followed by bright red berries liked by birds. It grows to eight or ten feet tall and is very good where a quick growing, tall growing, flowering shrub is desired for individual planting, high hedge or screen. It is very hardy and will grow on almost any soil in sun or partial shade.

Very rich in nectar, as indicated by the name, this is one of the best early season bee plants. In our locality it blooms in May.

18 to 24 inch plants, 2 for $2.00; 8 for $5.00; postpaid.

PEKING COTONEASTER

(Cotoneaster acutifolia)

Hardy tall growing shrub with glossy dark green foliage. The very numerous, inconspicuous flowers are swarming with bees for weeks in late spring. Apparently among the best of honey plants. The branches very heavily laden with fruits lasting in winter, appear valuable for wildlife. Plant singly for specimens or valuable for massing or hedging shrub.

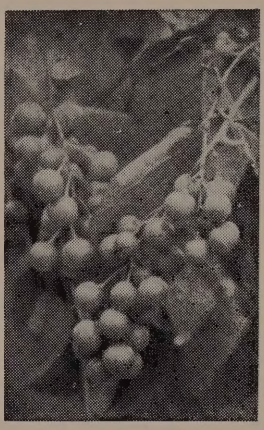
18 to 24 inch select plants, each $1.35; 3 for $3.50; postpaid.

BITTERSWEET

(Celastrus scandens)

Our native American Bittersweet is a vine or climbing shrub noted for the bright orange and scarlet colored seed clusters which are much sought for winter bouquets. Good for trellis or arbor or border fence. The flowers are freely visited by bees.

Well rooted plants or divisions, 3 for $2.50; 12 for $7.50; postpaid.



The bright orange colored berries later crack open to a bright scarlet.

DISTANCE FOR PLANTING: For close windbreak or screen, space Vitex, Pea Tree, Beauty Bush, Cotoneaster and Honey Suckle three to four feet apart. The above are suggested spacing in the rows when a close windbreak, screen or high hedge is desired. If you wish the individual plants to develop fully, then a much wider spacing should be allowed.

INTRODUCTORY OFFER

19 Sturdy Plants — 8 Outstanding Varieties. Trees and Shrubs for Nectar.

1 Bee Bee Tree
2 Vitex negundo incisa
2 Pea Tree
1 Russian Olive
1 Clavey's Dwarf Honeysuckle
1 Cotoneaster
1 Tatarian Honeysuckle
1 Pussy Willow

ONLY $7.95; Postpaid

PELLETT CLOVER

(Trifolium ambiguum)

Known as Pellett Clover, Kura Clover and Honey Clover.

THIS VERY UNUSUAL CLOVER ACTUALLY SPREADS from rhizomous roots and, unlike most clovers, increases from year to year. The surprising behavior of this plant is the way in which the roots branch and rebranch, repeatedly sending new leaves to the surface. Where it does well, root branches cut off and reset, grow vigorously and the new plants spread in similar manner. FILLS IN A HURRY — rows planted 3½ to 4 feet apart in April using root divisions have spread to fill the spaces originally between the rows in a little more than a year's time; producing one of the most abundant root systems of any plant we have ever seen — STOPS EROSION. The plant shows much winter hardiness.

Abundant root system of Pellet Clover as removed from the soil.

Pellett Clover blooms in June and July with corolla tubes such that the nectar is readily accessible to honey bees. We have observed honey bees usually visit the flowers freely during the extended blooming period. Studies have indicated a nectar relatively high in sugar content.

We furnish strong root divisions for trial plantings, well packed for shipping:

25 (minimum shipment) for $2.00; 50 for $3.25; 100 for $5.00; 250 for $10.00; 500 for $18.00; postpaid.

Unusual Perennials

Selected for Unusual Attraction, Hardiness and Nectar

Each with its distinctive attractiveness as attributed to the unusual and to wild flowers. These are hardy perennials of the kind which will largely take care of themselves in their respective environments. The best we can find in perennial honey plants.

ANISE HYSSOP

(Agastache anethiodora)

Wonder honey plant attracts bees by the thousands.

LONG PERIOD OF BLOOM—the flowers of Anise Hyssop are visited by the bees so eagerly over a long period in many localities, it has been termed "Wonder Honey Plant." Where it does well it furnishes an abundance of bloom beginning early in June, blooming freely usually for two to three months and with some bloom lasting until frost. As soon as it is daylight in the morning until twilight in the evening, we find the bees working Anise Hyssop.

Anise Hyssop was a native plant in pioneer days in Iowa and northward where it grew around woodland borders. An enthusiastic pioneer horticulturist estimated that an acre of Anise Hyssop, well established, would be pasturage for 100 colonies of bees. Though the plant has nearly disappeared from our native flora, in most places it will grow in cultivated garden and in favorable situations will naturalize. The small seed requires moist conditions for germination; plants bloom first year from seed. Perennial to four feet tall, flower heads lavendar blue.

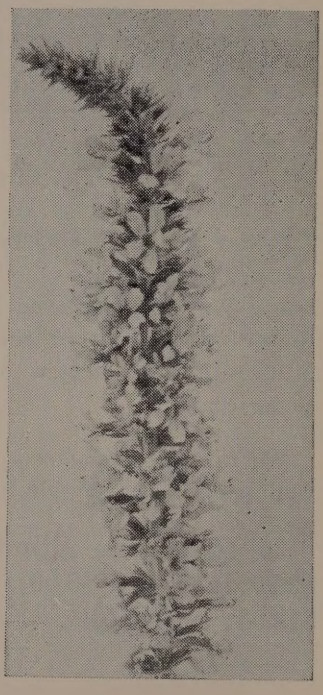
Seed, packet, 35c; postpaid.

One year plants, 6 for $1.00; 2 dozen for $3.00; postpaid.

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

(Lythrum salicaria)

An ideal honey plant for your flower border.



PURPLE FLOWERS on long spikes in late summer and fall. A nice ornamental growing to three feet or taller. Very good for flower gardens, hardy perennial, adapted to most soils, grows well in most gardens.

Purple loosestrife blooms over a long period and the flowers are very heavily worked by bees.

The plant is especially adapted to moist or boggy land and under these conditions has naturalized readily in some localities.

Bee-keepers take note: It is reported as a major source of nectar where sufficiently plentiful. Tho the fine seed requires very moist conditions for germination, we do have some reports of success in naturalizing when the seed was only scattered in wet

places in early spring. Plants set out in low land have spread extensively by self seeding.

The seed is tiny, with a very large number of seeds per ounce.

Seed, packet, 25c; ounce $1.00; ¼ pound, $3.00; postpaid.

Plants, 6 for $1.00; 2 dozen for $3.00; postpaid.

MOUNTAIN MINT
(Pycnathemum pilosum)

For the unusual amount of bloom per plant and the very pronounced minty flavor of the leaves, you will like this perennial in your garden or borders. It blooms heavily for a long period, beginning mid-summer. The flowers are very attractive to the bees and an abundant source of nectar. This plant is noted for the large amount of mint oil contained in the leaves and flower heads. Grows to three feet in height. Will grow in sun or partial shade.

Massive bloom of Mountain Mint

Seed, packet 25c; postpaid.

Plants, 3 for $1.50; postpaid.

MEADOW SAGE
(Salvia pratensis)

THE ABUNDANT PURPLE FLOWERS are a beautiful sight in spring when there is not yet much in bloom in the flower garden. We find this perennial easy to grow, long lived and drowth resistant. It stands reasonable competition and spreads slowly from self seeding. It grows close to the ground except in blooming stage when the flowering stems reach a height of two feet. Weeds can be mowed over it without injury to the Meadow Sage. Ideal for borders and naturalizing and you will like a row of it in your garden.

The flowers of Meadow Sage are humming with bees and provide good bee pasture for several weeks at a time when forage is scarce.

Seed per packet, 25c; postpaid.

Plants, 5 for $1.00; 20 for $3.00; postpaid.

GARDEN SAGE
(Salvia officinalis)

The garden sage has been cultivated for centuries for its aromatic leaves which are used in flavoring foods. It is a long lived perennial and should be included in every garden. The flowers are attractive to bees and a high quality honey is gathered from garden sage. Blooms in June.

Seed, packet, 25c; ounce, $1.00; postpaid.

WILD INDIGO
(Baptisa australis)

Attractive in foliage and flower, grows into a stately clump three feet tall. Dozens of stalks arise from a single root of a well established plant with large clusters of blue pea-like flowers in June. Long-lived and hardy, very attractive to the bees.

Seed, per packet 25c; postpaid.

Plants, 5 for $1.00; postpaid.

VIRGINIA WATERLEAF
(Hydrophyllum virginicum)

This is an attractive perennial to naturalize in shady situations. An herb with many white or purple flowers following fruit bloom. Of simple culture if given a partly shaded place in the wild garden, preferably rich woods soil. Reported from Quebec to South Carolina and westward to Kansas. Growing throughout the Pellett Memorial Preserve, it fairly covers the area in late spring and blooms abundantly to fifteen inches in height. Bees are most eager for the flowers, visiting them in large numbers during the extended blooming period. A valuable honey plant for apiaries in the vicinity of woodlands.

Plant divisions, 6 for $1.50; 2 dozen for $4.50; postpaid.

GARDEN HYSSOP
(Hyssopus officinalis)

Stocky thick growth to two feet tall. Numerous blue flowers not showy but ornamental in mass. Usually swarming with bees for weeks, June to September. Not to be confused with either Anise Hyssop or Giant Hyssop as it is an entirely different plant. Makes nice border.

Seed, per packet, 25c; postpaid.

Plants or divisions, 5 for $1.00; 20 for $3.00; postpaid.

CATNIP OR CATMINT
(Nepeta cataria)

This best known member of the Catnip family blooms over a long period, beginning in mid-summer. It is very rich in nectar and attracts the bees in large numbers. It is perennial, easy to grow and one of the very best of honey plants for naturalizing in waste places. This plant was common to herb gardens of pioneer days, grows three feet tall.

Seed, packet, 15c; ounce $1.00; postpaid.

CHAPMAN HONEY PLANT

(Echinops sphaerocephalus)

Chapman Honey Plant, also known as Globe Thistle, once enjoyed a real boom among the bee-keepers. It blooms heavily in mid-summer and the bees visit the flowers in large numbers. The globe-shaped flowers are grown for ornament. The plant is biennial and reaches a height of six feet; easily grown, can be planted either spring or early fall.

Seed per packet, 25c; per ounce, $1.00; postpaid.

The Echinops have globe-shaped flowers

BLUE GLOBE FLOWER

(Echinops ritro)

Bright blue globe flowers in late summer lasting into September, make this a desirable ornamental. Perennial, growing to four feet on our soil, the flowers are freely worked by bees. A plant which should be included in bee-keeper's flower garden.

Seed, per packet 25c, postpaid.

WILD MARJORAM

(Origanum vulgare)

Wild Marjoram blooms over a long period, beginning in midsummer and is a favorite of the honey-bee. It is an attractive perennial, growing 1½ to two feet tall. It is a European plant cultivated in gardens and naturalizes readily under right conditions in this country. You will like it in your garden.

Seed, packet, 35c; postpaid.

Plants, 4 for $1.50; postpaid.

GOLDEN HONEY PLANT

(Actinomeris alternifolia)

Golden Honey Plant, also known as Wingstem or Crownbeard, is one of the best native honey plants of the Mississippi valley. Where this plant is plentiful the bee-keeper need never worry about abundant stores for winter. It is a rather coarse perennial about five feet tall with irregular yellow flowers. It blooms in August and never fails to find bees working it. It will grow in either sun or partial shade; does best in sheltered situations such as partly wooded areas or woodland borders. Once started in favorable environment, it will gradually spread around. It is often found growing in sparse timber along streams.

Bees Working Golden Honey Plant

Seed, per packet, 25c; postpaid.

One year plants or divisions, 6 for $1.00; 2 dozen for $3.00; postpaid.

SIMPSON'S HONEY PLANT
(Scrophularia marilandica)

Simpson's Honey Plant also commonly known as Figwort, has long been famous for its rich store of nectar for the bees. The flowers are small but abundant and rich in honey. The plant is perennial and grows from three to six feet high. It will grow in either sun or shade and is often found growing wild in wooded areas. It blooms in the fall.

Seed, per packet, 25c postpaid.

ASTER

The wild asters are the last source of nectar in many localities. We offer a mixture of several of the most ornamental varieties, including New England Aster and Arrow Leaf Aster. All are worthy of a place in the garden. Perennial.

Seed, per packet, 25c postpaid.

NEW ENGLAND ASTER, probably the most showy of the wild asters; grows to four or five feet tall and blooms in the fall with showy purple flowers.

Divisions: 3 for $1.00; 12 for $3.00; postpaid.

MOTHERWORT
(Leonurus cardiaca)

Motherwort blooms over a long period beginning in summer and sometimes continuing to late in the fall. It is an abundant source of nectar and the bees are attracted to it in large numbers. This perennial, native of Asia, has become naturalized in many American localities. It is easily raised from seed and once established, should remain with little attention for many years. Grows two to four feet tall. One of the best of honey plants to naturalize in waste places for bee pasture.

Seed, packet, 25c; postpaid.

CHIVIRICO
(Leonurus sibiricus)

Tall growing biennial with flowers all the way up the stalks furnishes unusual amount of bloom for the area involved. It begins blooming here in August or 1st of September with flowers covered with bees to as late as the fall as bees are working any flowers. It is easy to grow and seeds freely — appears a good honey plant to perpetuate itself in unused corners and waste areas, for nectar at a season when it is often most needed by the bees.

Tho we had a report from South America labeling the plant as a nuisance, having observed it over a number of years, it seems to us no more difficult to control here than plants commonly growing in our fence rows and one to furnish some good fall bee pasture.

Chivirico is cultivated as an ornamental in gardens in some countries and has been naturalized widely in places in tropical America. Reports from there indicate a valuable bee plant.

Try some in your garden and watch the bees on it in fall.

Plants, 6 for $1.50; 2 dozen $5.00; postpaid.

Annuals

PHACELIA

The fiddle neck phacelia (Phacelia tenacetifolia) is an annual of easy culture and the flowers are covered with bees from morning till night. This plant is native to California but has been widely cultivated in European gardens as a honey plant, also grown to some extent for forage. It reaches a height of about two feet, with blueish or pink flowers. A famous bee plant.

Seed, packet, 25c; postpaid.

CALIFORNIA POPPY
BLOOMS THROUGHOUT SUMMER.

The California poppy is a familiar plant to those who have visited the West Coast in springtime. In the East it is grown as an annual. It reseeds freely and is easily grown in gardens or naturalized in sunny situations. The bees visit the flowers in large numbers for pollen. It blooms over a long period.

Seed, per packet, 15c; ounce, 75c; postpaid.

BORAGE

Borage has long been famous as a bee plant and has been much planted in European honey plant gardens. It is an annual native to Europe and North Africa.

Although the honey is dark and not of the best quality, the bees visit the flowers so freely that it should be included in every extensive collection of honey plants. It is a hardy plant, blooming for a long period.

Seed, per packet, 15c; ounce, 75c; postpaid.

MIGNONETTE (Reseda odorata)

Mignonette has long been a favorite with those who have bee gardens. The bloom is very fragrant. Some very extravagant claims have been made as to the amount of honey to be secured from this source. While there is no proof that such yields can be secured, the flowers are very attractive to the bees and it seems probable that if enough of it were available good crops might be harvested. Try it in your garden.

Seed, per packet, 15c; ounce, 75c; postpaid.

SAFFLOWER

Safflower is a fast growing annual which reaches a height of about three feet. The large yellow flowers are of interest in the garden but it is cultivated principally as a source of drying oil in demand by the paint and varnish industry. Bees visit the flowers freely and indications are that it will prove to be a good honey plant.

Seed per packet, 15c; postpaid.

GOLDEN CLEOME (Cleome lutea)

Golden Cleome or Yellow Spider Flower makes a large growing ornamental in one season growth. Though native to a dry region (the Southwest), this annual proves worthy of garden cultivation in our more humid climate. Given cultivation and plenty of room, it reaches a height up to six or seven feet and blooms from July until frost with a constantly increasing number of flower clusters. It is ideal for background, self sows freely. Although this may not be true in all localities, we find it one of the finest of honey plants, very attractive to bees and other insects, continuing well into the fall when there is not much other bee forage.

Seed, per packet, 25c; per ounce $1.00; postpaid.

THE BEE GARDEN

Provides nectar for the bees and relaxation for the owner.

To live in an atmosphere of abundant flowers, humming with bees in search of nectar, brings mental harmony and peace of mind.

HANDY ORDER BLANK

PELLETT GARDENS

Atlantic, Iowa Date ..... 196.....

Please send the following to:

.....

.....

.....

I enclose $.....

Ship plants and (or) trees about .....

NOTE: Most plants and trees for spring planting we ship late March and early April. If no date is given, we use our best judgment. As soon as frost is out of the ground is best time to plant.

Items	Quantity Wanted	Amount	
Trees and Shrubs		**$**	
Vitex (seed or trees)			
Bee Bee Tree			
Pea Tree			
Russian Olive			
Northern Climate Special, 15 Plants, 3 Hardy Varieties, $5.00			
Clavey's Dwarf Honeysuckle			
Tatarian Honeysuckle			
Peking Cotoneaster			
Bittersweet			
Tree and Shrub Introductory Offer, 10 Sturdy Plants, $7.95			
Pellett Clover (root divisions)			
Unusual Perennials Anise Hyssop			
Purple Loosestrife			
Mountain Mint			
Meadow Sage			
Garden Sage			
Wild Indigo			
Virginia Waterleaf			
Garden Hyssop			
Carried Forward		$	

Items	Quantity Wanted	Amount	
Carried Forward		$	
Catnip or Catmint			
Chapman Honey Plant			
Blue Globe Flower			
Wild Marjoram			
Golden Honey Plant			
Simpson's Honey Plant			
Aster (mixture wild aster seed)			
New England Aster (divisions)			
Motherwort			
Annuals Phacelia			
California Poppy			
Borage			
Mignonette			
Safflower			
Golden Cleome			
Garden Collection 32 plants, 6 varieties; $5.00			
Packet Collection of Seed No. I, No. II or both			
Total Amount		$	

We try to send out only good seeds and plants and use much care to keep our varieties pure and true to name. However, since results also depend upon such factors as soils, climates, weather, knowledge and skill of the purchaser, etc., over which we have no control, we cannot in any way be responsible for the crop. It is mutually agreed that our liability in any instance is limited to the original purchase price. *PELLETT GARDENS. Atlantic, Iowa.*

GARDEN COLLECTION

Color and nectar in your flower border.

Anise Hyssop—6 plants
Wild Indigo—5 plants
Purple Loosestrife—6 plants
Garden Hyssop—5 plants
Wild Marjoram—4 plants
Golden Honey Plant—6 plants

$6.50 Value for $5.00 Postpaid

SPECIAL PACKET COLLECTIONS OF SEED

Something in Bloom All Season

I. BEE GARDEN COLLECTION

Color and nectar in your flower border.

5 packets unusual seed for $1.00, postpaid.

One packet each of Anise Hyssop, Purple Loosestrife, Garden Hyssop, Wild Indigo and Blue Globe Flower.

II. NECTAR PLANTS FOR UNUSED CORNERS

(Also of interest in the garden.)

Seed of 6 outstanding honey plants for $1.00, postpaid.

One packet each of Golden Honey Plant, Borage, Catnip, Motherwort, Phacelia, Chapman Honey Plant.

PLEASE READ BEFORE ORDERING:

We try to send out only good seeds and plants and we use much care to keep our varieties pure and true to name. However, since results also depend on such factors as soils, climates, weather, knowledge and skill of the purchaser, etc., over which we have no control, we cannot in any way be responsible for the crop. It is mutually agreed that our liability in any instance is limited to the amount actually paid us for seeds or plants. **PELLETT GARDENS, Atlantic, Iowa.**

Safe Arrival Guaranteed. Parcel post shipments we either insure or guarantee (to the extent of the purchase price) safe arrival anywhere in the original 48 states. Trees and plants are guaranteed to arrive in good growable condition, provided shipment is ordered within our stated shipping season. We cannot guarantee results as that depends upon circumstances beyond our control. Plants we offer will be well packed for shipping. Any claims should be made within ten days from receipt of order.

ALL ITEMS ARE OFFERED subject to availability. Refunds made for items sold out, as soon as this is known.

MINIMUM ORDER: Please do not order less than seeds totaling $1.00 or plants totaling $3.00 or more for shipment at one time. Due to packing and mailing costs, smaller orders are handled at a loss and we reserve the right to refuse orders smaller than these amounts.

HOW TO REMIT: Remit by check or money order. Currency remittances at your own risk.

SHIPPING SEASON: Seeds: Year around. **Plants and Trees:** Late fall (after freeze when plants become dormant) through winter and spring, closing late May. Refrigerated storage facilities enable us to make shipments south during winter and to hold stock dormant in spring months.

FALL ORDERS: You may use this catalog for fall orders. We expect to have most items at the same prices. If prices have risen on any item you order, we will advise before shipping.

PELLETT GARDENS

MELVIN PELLETT NORMAN PELLETT

ATLANTIC, IOWA

PELLETT GARDENS
Atlantic, Iowa

Postmaster: Return Postage Guaranteed

Ralph R. Shaw
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington 25, D.C.